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# Marine Physical Laboratory

## Spatial/Temporal Signal and Noise Analysis and Site Specific Experiment Support

William S. Hodgkiss

Final Report to the  
Office of Naval Research  
Contract N00014-89-D-0142 (DO #30)  
for the Period 5-15-92 - 5-14-93

### Final Report

MPL-U-48/95  
September 1995

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DIAG QUALITY INSPECTED

REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE			Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188
Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302, and to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0704-0188), Washington, DC 20503.			
1. Agency Use Only (Leave Blank).	2. Report Date. September 1995	3. Report Type and Dates Covered. Final Report	
4. Title and Subtitle. Spatial/Temporal Signal and Noise Analysis and Site Specific Experiment Support		5. Funding Numbers. N00014-89-D-0142 (DO#30)	
6. Author(s). W. S. Hodgkiss		Project No. Task No.	
7. Performing Monitoring Agency Name(s) and Address(es). University of California, San Diego Marine Physical Laboratory Scripps Institution of Oceanography San Diego, California 92152		8. Performing Organization Report Number. MPL-U-48/95	
9. Sponsoring/Monitoring Agency Name(s) and Address(es). Chief of Naval Research Department of the Navy 800 North Quincy Street Arlington, VA 22217-5660 Code 321US		10. Sponsoring/Monitoring Agency Report Number.	
11. Supplementary Notes.			
12a. Distribution/Availability Statement. Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.		12b. Distribution Code.	
13. Abstract (Maximum 200 words).  Little experimental data exists which can be applied to the design and performance evaluation of multidimensional array systems. Such data are needed both to validate signal and noise propagation models as well as to provide well-documented real data inputs to new adaptive spatial and temporal processing algorithms. In preparation for a FY94 VLF noise and signal experiment, preliminary analysis of an existing near-seafloor data set was carried out, planning and preparation for a September 1993 engineering sea test were completed, and robust adaptive algorithms were developed for the processing of array data.			
14. Subject Terms. multidimensional array systems, ambient noise, robust adaptive algorithms		15. Number of Pages. 2	
		16. Price Code.	
17. Security Classification of Report. Unclassified	18. Security Classification of This Page. Unclassified	19. Security Classification of Abstract. Unclassified	20. Limitation of Abstract. None

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## *Abstract*

Little experimental data exists which can be applied to the design and performance evaluation of multidimensional array systems. Such data are needed both to validate signal and noise propagation models as well as to provide well-documented real data inputs to new adaptive spatial and temporal processing algorithms. In preparation for a FY94 VLF noise and signal experiment, preliminary analysis of an existing near-seafloor data set was carried out, planning and preparation for a September 1993 engineering sea test were completed, and robust adaptive algorithms were developed for the processing of array data.

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## *Research Objectives*

The objective of this program was to assist NOSC (now NRaD) in the preparations required for a VLF noise and signal experiment in FY94.

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## *Research Summary*

As envisioned, the experiment that was to be conducted in FY94 would provide a multidimensional array data set along with detailed

environmental data including water column sound speed structure and a geoacoustic characterization of the bottom. Preparations for the FY94 experiment involved several efforts.

First, in order to obtain an example of near-seafloor vertical array data, the NOBS (Noise On Basalt and Sediment) experiment was augmented with 48 hydrophone array elements providing data on ambient noise and signal structure from the seafloor to approximately 750 m above. Analysis of this data is documented in [1].

Second, MPL assisted NOSC in planning the FY94 Site Specific Experiment (SSE). This included participation in discussions concerning the ocean engineering requirements for array deployment and recovery, site selection, and development of the scientific objectives and data requirements for the experiment. Also, as part of this effort, MPL participated in the planning and preparations for the SSE engineering sea test which was carried out in September 1993.

Third, robust adaptive algorithms have been developed for the processing of multidimensional array data. Uncertainties in environmental parameters (e.g. water column sound speed structure or geoacoustic properties of the bottom) can lead to degradations in the performance of adaptive beamformers. Incorporating knowledge of this uncertainty can improve substantially adaptive beamformer performance. One approach to the design of such a robust processor in a matched-field framework is described in [2]. The MV-SPC (Minimum Variance with Sound-speed Perturbation Constraints) processor then is extended in [3] to include wavefront measurements from a source-of-opportunity leading to additional improvement in performance.

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### *ONR Publications*

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- [1] M.T. Hagerty, G.L. D'Spain, and W.S. Hodgkiss, "Preliminary analysis of the FLIP Array Data from the NOBS Experiment," MPL TM-429, Marine Physical Laboratory of the Scripps Institution of Oceanography, San Diego, CA (1992).
- [2] J. Krolik, "Matched-field minimum variance beamforming in a random ocean channel," J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 92: 1408-1419 (1992).
- [3] J.L. Krolik, "Self-cohering conditionally constrained minimum variance matched-field processing in a random ocean environment," J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 93(4): 2375 (1993).

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